



City of Ypsilanti

Office of the City Clerk

November 17, 2011

Angie Lake, Committee Clerk
State Judiciary Committee
124 North Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7514

Dear Ms. Lake,

Please find enclosed Ypsilanti City Council Resolution 2011-249, opposing House Bill No. 5039.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Ypsilanti City Clerk's office at (734) 483-1100.

Sincerely,

Frances McMullan
City Clerk



Resolution No. 2011-249
November 15, 2011

YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL No. 5039

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:

WHEREAS, the diversity of our community makes Ypsilanti a great place to live, work, and raise a family; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ypsilanti recognizes that respect for diversity is a vital component of successful economic development and talent retention; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act does not currently prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or student status; and

WHEREAS, in 1997 the City of Ypsilanti unanimously adopted a Human Relations Ordinance that prohibits discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations based on sexual orientation and student status, in addition to the categories presently included in Michigan's Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act; and

WHEREAS, The voters of the City of Ypsilanti soundly rejected a Charter Amendment initiative to repeal the Human Relations Ordinance in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 22 of the Michigan Constitution guarantees each city and village the "power to adopt resolutions and ordinances relating to its municipal concerns"; and

WHEREAS, the State has no legitimate interest in restricting the ability of local units of government to adopt anti-discrimination ordinances that reflect the values and unique circumstances of our communities; and

WHEREAS, proposed House Bill 5039 would void the City of Ypsilanti ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and student status; and

WHEREAS, the effect of House Bill 5039 will be to legalize discrimination against students and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender residents in East Lansing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ypsilanti opposes House Bill 5039 and urges the Michigan Legislature to defeat this legislation.

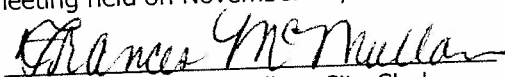
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to State Senator Rebecca Warren, State Representative David Rutledge, Kirk Profit, Governor Rick Snyder and the members of the State House Judiciary Committee.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Murdock

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0 Vote: Carried

I do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution 2011-249 as passed by the Ypsilanti City Council, at their meeting held on November 15, 2011.


Frances McMullan, City Clerk